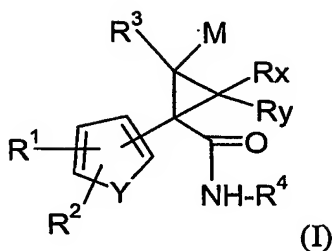


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## CLAIMS

1. A compound of the formula



wherein

Y is  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{N}-$ , sulfur or oxygen; and

M is hydrogen, halo, lower alkyl, or perfluoro lower alkyl; and

- 10 Rx and Ry are hydrogen, halo or methyl; and

$\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  are independently hydrogen, halo, amino, hydroxyamino, nitro, cyano, sulfonamido, lower alkyl,  $-\text{OR}^5$ ,  $-\text{COOR}^5$ , perfluoro- lower alkyl, lower alkyl thio, perfluoro-lower alkyl thio, lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro lower alkyl sulfonyl, lower alkyl sulfinyl,

- 15  $\text{R}^5$  is hydrogen, lower alkyl or perfluoro-lower alkyl; or furthermore

$\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$  can be  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{NR}^6\text{R}^7$ , with  $n=1, 2, 3$  or  $4$  and

$\text{R}^6$  and  $\text{R}^7$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated 5- or 6-

- 20 membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; or

$\text{R}^1$ ,  $\text{R}^2$  can be alkynyl,

substituted with hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl, an unsubstituted or hydroxy substituted cycloalkyl ring containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms, a

- 25 five- or six-membered saturated heterocyclic ring which contains from 1 to 3 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen, or an unsubstituted five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring, connected by a ring carbon atom, which contains from 1 to 3 heteroatoms in the ring selected from the group consisting of sulfur, nitrogen and oxygen, or  $-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{NR}^8\text{R}^9$ , with  $n=1, 2$ , and

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$R^8$  and  $R^9$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated 5- or 6-membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; or

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$  can be  $R^{10}-(CH_2)_y-W]z-$ , with

W is oxygen, sulfur,  $-SO-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ , and

$R^{10}$  is a heteroaromatic ring, connected by a ring carbon atom, which contains from 5 to 6 ring members with from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen,

sulfur or nitrogen, or

aryl containing 6 or 10 ring carbon atoms, or

aryl containing from 6 ring carbon atoms fused with a heteroaromatic ring containing 5 or 6 ring members with 1 or 2 heteroatoms in the ring being selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, or

a saturated 5- or 6-membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen, or a cycloalkyl ring having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, or

$-NR^{11}R^{12}$ , with  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl;

y is independently 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; z is independently 0, 1; or

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$  can be  $R^{13}-(CH_2)_t-U-$ , with

U is  $-NHCO-$ ,  $-CONH-$ ,  $-NHSO_2-$ ,  $-SO_2NH-$  and

$R^{13}$  in the same meaning of  $R^{10}$  and

perfluoro-lower alkyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy carbonyl or

$-NR^{14}R^{15}$ ,  $R^{14}$  and  $R^{15}$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the

nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated 5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;

t is an integer being 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

$R^3$  is lower alkyl or halo lower alkyl having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms or arylalkyl or  $-(CH_2)_s-V$  where V is a 3 to 8-membered ring which is cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, or heterocycloalkyl having one heteroatom selected from oxygen and sulfur;

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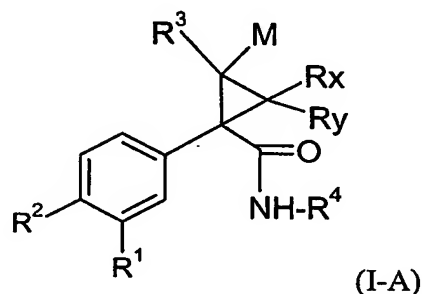
s is independently 0, 1 or 2;

$R^4$  is  $-C(O)NHR^{16}$ , or is  $R^{17}$ ;

$R^{16}$  is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl,  
 $-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{18}$ ,  $-CO-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{19}$ ;

- 5  $R^{17}$  is an unsubstituted, mono- or di-substituted five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring connected by a ring carbon atom to the amide group shown, which five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring contains from 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen, with one heteroatom being nitrogen which is adjacent to the connecting ring carbon atom; said mono- or di-substituted heteroaromatic ring being mono- or di-
- 10 substituted at a position on a ring carbon atom other than adjacent to said connecting carbon atom with a substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano,  $-(CH_2)_n-OR^{20}$ ,  $-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{21}$ ,  
 $-(CH_2)_n-CONHR^{22}$ ,  $-(CH_2)_n-NHR^{23}$ ,  
 n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;
- 15  $R^{18}$ ,  $R^{19}$ ,  $R^{20}$ ,  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$  and  $R^{23}$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 having the formula



wherein

M is hydrogen, halo, lower alkyl or perfluoro lower alkyl; and

Rx and Ry are hydrogen, halo or methyl; and

- 25  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are independently hydrogen, halo, amino, hydroxyamino, nitro, cyano, sulfonamido, lower alkyl,  $-OR^5$ ,  $-COOR^5$ , perfluoro- lower alkyl, lower alkyl thio, perfluoro-lower alkyl thio, lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro lower alkyl sulfonyl, lower alkyl sulfinyl,

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R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, lower alkyl or perfluoro-lower alkyl; or furthermore

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> can be  $-(CH_2)_n-NR^6R^7$ , with  $n=1, 2, 3$  or  $4$  and

R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated 5- or 6-membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; or

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> can be alkynyl,

substituted with hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl, an unsubstituted or hydroxy substituted cycloalkyl ring containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms, a five- or six-membered saturated heterocyclic ring which contains from 1 to 3 hetero atoms selected from the group consisting of sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen, or an unsubstituted five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring, connected by a ring carbon atom, which contains from 1 to 3 heteroatoms in the ring selected from the group consisting of sulfur, nitrogen and oxygen, or  $-(CH_2)_n-NR^8R^9$ , with  $n=1, 2$ , and

R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated 5- or 6-membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; or

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> can be  $R^{10}-[(CH_2)_y-W]_z-$ , with

W is oxygen, sulfur,  $-SO-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ , and

R<sup>10</sup> is a heteroaromatic ring, connected by a ring carbon atom, which contains from 5 to 6 ring members with from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen, or

aryl containing 6 or 10 ring carbon atoms, or

aryl containing from 6 ring carbon atoms fused with a heteroaromatic ring containing 5 or 6 ring members with 1 or 2 heteroatoms in the ring being selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, or

a saturated 5- or 6-membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen, or a cycloalkyl ring having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, or

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-NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, with R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl;

y is independently 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; z is independently 0, 1; or

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> can be R<sup>13</sup>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>-U-, with

U is -NHCO-, -CONH-, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>-, -SO<sub>2</sub>NH- and

5 R<sup>13</sup> in the same meaning of R<sup>10</sup> and

perfluoro-lower alkyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxycarbonyl or

-NR<sup>14</sup>R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>14</sup> and R<sup>15</sup> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the

nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated

10 5- or 6- membered heterocycloalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;

t is an integer being 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

R<sup>3</sup> is lower alkyl or halo lower alkyl having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms or arylalkyl or -

(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>s</sub>-V where V is a 3 to 8-membered ring which is cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, or

15 heterocycloalkyl having one heteroatom selected from oxygen and sulfur;

s is independently 0, 1 or 2;

R<sup>4</sup> is -C(O)NHR<sup>16</sup>, or is R<sup>17</sup>;

R<sup>16</sup> is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl,

-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-COOR<sup>18</sup>, -CO-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-COOR<sup>19</sup>;

20 R<sup>17</sup> is an unsubstituted, mono- or di-substituted five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring connected by a ring carbon atom to the amide group shown, which five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring contains from 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen, with one heteroatom being nitrogen which is adjacent to the connecting ring carbon atom; said mono- or di-substituted heteroaromatic ring being mono- or di-

25 substituted at a position on a ring carbon atom other than adjacent to said connecting carbon atom with a substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-OR<sup>20</sup>, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-COOR<sup>21</sup>,

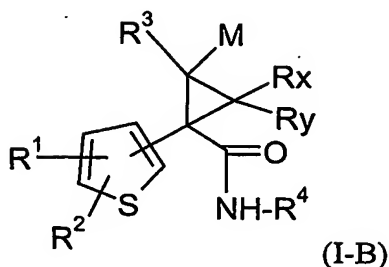
-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-CONHR<sup>22</sup>, -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-NHR<sup>23</sup>,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

30 R<sup>18</sup>, R<sup>19</sup>, R<sup>20</sup>, R<sup>21</sup>, R<sup>22</sup> and R<sup>23</sup> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

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3. A compound according to claim 1 having the formula



wherein

- 5 M is hydrogen, halo, lower alkyl or perfluoro lower alkyl; and  
 Rx and Ry are hydrogen, halo or methyl; and  
 R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are independently hydrogen, halo, amino, hydroxyamino, nitro,  
 cyano, sulfonamido, lower alkyl, -OR<sup>5</sup>, -COOR<sup>5</sup>, perfluoro- lower alkyl, lower  
 alkyl thio, perfluoro-lower alkyl thio, lower alkyl sulfonyl, perfluoro lower  
 10 alkyl sulfonyl, lower alkyl sulfinyl,  
 R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen, lower alkyl or perfluoro-lower alkyl; or furthermore  
 R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> can be -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-NR<sup>6</sup>R<sup>7</sup>, with n=1, 2, 3 or 4 and  
 R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the nitrogen atom  
 to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing  
 15 from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated 5- or 6-  
 membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from  
 the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; or  
 R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> can be alkynyl,  
 substituted with hydrogen, lower alkyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl, an  
 20 unsubstituted or hydroxy substituted cycloalkyl ring containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms, a  
 five- or six-membered saturated heterocyclic ring which contains from 1 to 3 hetero atoms  
 selected from the group consisting of sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen, or an unsubstituted five-  
 or six-membered heteroaromatic ring, connected by a ring carbon atom, which contains  
 from 1 to 3 heteroatoms in the ring selected from the group consisting of sulfur, nitrogen  
 25 and oxygen, or -(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>n</sub>-NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>, with n=1, 2, and  
 R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the nitrogen atom  
 to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing  
 from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated 5- or 6-

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membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen; or

$R^1, R^2$  can be  $R^{10}-[(CH_2)_y-W]_z-$ , with

W is oxygen, sulfur,  $-SO-$ ,  $-SO_2-$ , and

- 5  $R^{10}$  is a heteroaromatic ring, connected by a ring carbon atom, which contains from 5 to 6 ring members with from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen, or

aryl containing 6 or 10 ring carbon atoms, or

aryl containing from 6 ring carbon atoms fused with a heteroaromatic ring containing 5 or

- 10 6 ring members with 1 or 2 heteroatoms in the ring being selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, or

a saturated 5- or 6-membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2

heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen, or

a cycloalkyl ring having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, or

- 15  $-NR^{11}R^{12}$ , with  $R^{11}$  and  $R^{12}$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl;

y is independently 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; z is independently 0, 1; or

$R^1, R^2$  can be  $R^{13}-(CH_2)_t-U-$ , with

U is  $-NHCO-$ ,  $-CONH-$ ,  $-NHSO_2-$ ,  $-SO_2NH-$  and

$R^{13}$  in the same meaning of  $R^{10}$  and

- 20 perfluoro-lower alkyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy carbonyl or

$-NR^{14}R^{15}$ ,  $R^{14}$  and  $R^{15}$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the

nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring

containing from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; or a saturated

5- or 6- membered heterocycloalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected

- 25 from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen;

t is an integer being 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

$R^3$  is lower alkyl or halo lower alkyl having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms or arylalkyl or

$(CH_2)_s-V$  where V is a 3 to 8-membered ring which is cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, or

heterocycloalkyl having one heteroatom selected from oxygen and sulfur;

- 30 s is independently 0, 1 or 2;

$R^4$  is  $-C(O)NHR^{16}$ , or is  $R^{17}$ ;

$R^{16}$  is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl,

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$-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{18}$ ,  $-CO-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{19}$ ;

$R^{17}$  is an unsubstituted, mono- or di-substituted five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring connected by a ring carbon atom to the amide group shown, which five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring contains from 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or

5 nitrogen, with one heteroatom being nitrogen which is adjacent to the connecting ring carbon atom; said mono- or di-substituted heteroaromatic ring being mono- or di-substituted at a position on a ring carbon atom other than adjacent to said connecting carbon atom with a substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano,  $-(CH_2)_n-OR^{20}$ ,  $-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{21}$ ,

10  $-(CH_2)_n-CONHR^{22}$ ,  $-(CH_2)_n-NHR^{23}$ ,

$n$  is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

$R^{18}$ ,  $R^{19}$ ,  $R^{20}$ ,  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$  and  $R^{23}$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

15 4. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein

$R^4$  is an unsubstituted, mono- or di-substituted five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring connected by a ring carbon atom to the amide group shown, which five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring contains from 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen, with one heteroatom being nitrogen which is adjacent to the connecting ring

20 carbon atom; said mono- or di-substituted heteroaromatic ring being mono- or di-substituted at a position on a ring carbon atom other than adjacent to said connecting carbon atom with a substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halo, nitro, cyano,  $-(CH_2)_n-OR^{20}$ ,  $-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{21}$ ,

$-(CH_2)_n-CONHR^{22}$ ,  $-(CH_2)_n-NHR^{23}$ ,

25  $n$  is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

$R^{20}$ ,  $R^{21}$ ,  $R^{22}$  and  $R^{23}$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

5. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein  $R^4$  is an unsubstituted,  
30 mono- or di-substituted five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring selected from the group consisting of thiazolyl, imidazolyl, oxazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, or triazinyl.



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6. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein  $R^4$  is thiazolyl or pyridinyl, unsubstituted, mono- or di-substituted independently by halogen, lower alkyl or  $(CH_2)_n-C(O)OR^{21}$ , wherein  $n$  is 0, 1 or 2 and  $R^{21}$  is lower alkyl.

5

7. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein  $R^4$  is  $-C(O)NHR^{16}$ , where

$R^{16}$  is hydrogen, lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl,  $-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{18}$ ,  $-CO-(CH_2)_n-COOR^{19}$ ;

10  $n$  is 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4;

$R^{18}$  and  $R^{19}$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl, and its pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

8. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 3 or 7, wherein  $R^4$  is  $-C(O)NHR^{16}$ ,  
15 and  $R^{16}$  is lower alkyl or lower alkenyl.

9. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 8, wherein  $R^1$  is hydrogen, halo, nitro or cyano.

20 10. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 9, wherein  $R^1$  is hydrogen or halo.

11. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 10, wherein  $R^2$  is hydrogen, halo, nitro, cyano, sulfonamido, lower alkyl,  $-OR^5$ ,  $-COOR^5$ , perfluoro- lower alkyl, lower alkyl sulfonyl; or

25  $R^2$  can be  $R^{10}-[(CH_2)_y-W]_z-$ , where

$W$  is oxygen, sulfur,  $-SO-$ , or  $-SO_2-$ , and

$R^{10}$  is a heteroaromatic ring, connected by a ring carbon atom, which contains from 5 to 6 ring members with from 1 to 2 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur or nitrogen, or

30 aryl containing 6 or 10 ring carbon atoms, or

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aryl containing 6 ring carbon atoms fused with a heteroaromatic ring containing 5 or 6 ring members with 1 or 2 heteroatoms in the ring being selected from the group consisting of nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur, or

a saturated 5- or 6-membered cycloheteroalkyl ring, which contains from 1 to 2

- 5 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen, or a cycloalkyl ring having 5 or 6 carbon atoms, or

-NR<sup>11</sup>R<sup>12</sup>, with R<sup>11</sup> and R<sup>12</sup> being independently hydrogen or lower alkyl;

y is independently 0,1,2,3 or 4; z is independently 0,1; or

R<sup>2</sup> can be R<sup>13</sup>-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>t</sub>-U-, with

- 10 U is -NHCO-, -CONH-, -NHSO<sub>2</sub>-, -SO<sub>2</sub>NH- and R<sup>13</sup> in the same meaning of R<sup>10</sup> and

perfluoro-lower alkyl, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy carbonyl or

-NR<sup>14</sup>R<sup>15</sup>, R<sup>14</sup> and R<sup>15</sup> are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl; or together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a five or six-membered heteroaromatic ring

- 15 containing from 1 to 3 heteroatoms selected from sulfur, oxygen or nitrogen; t is an integer from 0 to 4.

12. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 11, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is halo, lower alkyl sulfonyl or R<sup>10</sup>-[(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>y</sub>-W]<sub>z</sub>-.

20

13. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 12, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is sulfonylmethyl or R<sup>10</sup>-[(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>y</sub>-W]<sub>z</sub>- where W is SO<sub>2</sub>.

14. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 13, wherein the aryl substituent and  
25 the group R<sup>3</sup> have a syn-relationship.

15. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 14, wherein V is cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl or cycloheptyl.

- 30 16. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 15, wherein V is cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl.

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17. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 14, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is isopropyl or n-propyl.

18. A compound according to any of claims 1 to 14, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is isobutyl.

5

19. The use of the compounds according to any of claims 1 to 18, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, for the treatment or prophylaxis of type II diabetes.

10 20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of any of claims 1 to 18, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

15 21. The use of a compound according to any of claims 1 to 18, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prophylaxis of type II diabetes.

22. A method for the prophylactic or therapeutic treatment of type II diabetes, which comprises administering a compound of any of claims 1 to 18, or a pharmaceutically  
20 acceptable salt thereof, to a human being or animal in need thereof.

23. A pharmaceutical composition for treating type II diabetes containing as an active ingredient a compound of any of claims 1 to 18, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25